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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/621,715	07/24/2000	Hadi Partovi	TM00-005.US	8722

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EXAMINER

ANWAH, OLISA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2645

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DATE MAILED: 10/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/621,715

Applicant(s)

PARTOVI ET AL.

Examiner

Olisa Anwah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Riskin, U.S. Patent No. 5,031,206 (hereinafter Riskin).

Regarding claim 1, Riskin discloses an interactive voice response system having a telephone interface (see Figure 1), a method of responding to a DTMF-input-sequence made by a caller on a telephone style keypad using a single keystroke per alphanumeric character (see abstract), the method comprising:

receiving the DTMF-input-sequence over the telephone interface (col. 6, lines 28-30);

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selecting from a plurality of alphanumeric string tokens, wherein each alphanumeric string token of the plurality has an assigned weighting factor, a subset of alphanumeric string tokens in which each alphanumeric string token in the subset is mapped in accordance with the telephone style keypad to a numeric sequence equivalent to the DTMF-input-sequence (col. 6, lines 30-40);

sorting the subset according to the weighting factor to generate a sorted list of alphanumeric string tokens (col. 6, lines 40-50); and

for each alphanumeric string token in the sorted list, successively playing a corresponding audio message (col. 6, lines 55-67).

Regarding claims 2 and 3, see col. 6, lines 40-50.

Regarding claim 4, see col. 6, lines 15-25.

Regarding claim 5, see col. 7, lines 1-5.

Regarding claims 6 and 7, see col. 26, line 54 to col. 27, line 10.

Regarding claim 8, Riskin discloses in a computer system that provides an audio user interface, a method of interfacing with a user comprising the steps of:

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prompting the user for an input (col. 5, line 68 to col. 6, line 1);

in response to receiving the input in the form of a DTMF-input-sequence delimited by a terminating character, selecting from a plurality of audio tokens, wherein each audio token of the plurality has a weighting factor and an alphanumeric identifier, a subset of audio tokens in which the alphanumeric identifier of each audio token of the subset corresponds to a DTMF sequence equivalent to the DTMF-input-sequence; sorting the subset according to the weighting factor to generate a sorted list of audio tokens and for each audio token in the sorted list, successively playing a corresponding audio message (column 6);

Regarding claim 9, see column 6.

Regarding claims 10 and 11, see col. 7, lines 1-5.

3. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Perera et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,052,443 (hereinafter Perera).

Regarding claim 12, Perera discloses a voice response system having a telephone interface and a recognition grammar for recognizing a set of spoken utterances in which each spoken utterance of the set has an associated alphanumeric string

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identifier (see abstract), a method of interpreting input comprising:

receiving a DTMF key sequence over the telephone interface (col. 5, lines 35-55);

determining a constrained recognition grammar to recognize a subset of spoken utterances, wherein the subset comprises each spoken utterance of the set that has an associated alphanumeric string identifier that maps to a DTMF sequence that is equivalent to the DTMF key sequence (see Figure 4);

playing a prompt over the telephone input to solicit a voice input (col. 11, lines 20-25);

in response to receiving the voice input over the telephone, processing the voice input against the constrained recognition grammar to determine a matching element of the subset (col. 11, lines 25-60); and

playing an audio message corresponding to the matching element (col. 9, lines 10-30).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olisa Anwah whose telephone number is 703-305-4814. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8.30 AM to 6 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 703-305-4895. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

O.A.

Olisa Anwah
Patent Examiner
October 1, 2003

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISOR & PATENT EXAMINER
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